

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A disc prosthesis including, comprising:
a core, the core being of elastomeric material[[.]];
~~the core being provided within an inner component encapsulating said core, the inner component being of fabric[[.]] and providing a smooth inner contact surface for said core;~~
~~the inner component being provided within an outer component surrounding said inner component, the outer component being of fabric[[.]];~~
~~the inner component providing a smooth inner contact surface for the core, wherein~~ movement between the inner and outer components ~~being~~ is facilitated in preference to movement between the inner component and core.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to claim [[2]]1, wherein in which the core is a single elastomeric component.
4. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to claim [[2]]1, wherein in which the core is formed of multiple elastomeric components, with each provided within its own inner component.
5. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to any preceding claim 1, wherein in-which the core provides a planar top surface and planar lower surface, the top and bottom surfaces not being parallel to one another, the separation of the top and bottom surfaces increasing from one side of the core to the other.
6. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to any preceding claim 1, wherein at least one of in-which the top surface and[[/or]] bottom surface of the core is at least one of octagonal, and/or hexagonal, and/or round, and[[/or]] elliptic.
7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to any of claims 2 to 7 claim 1, wherein in which any movement, particularly sliding movement, within the disc is greater between the outer component and inner component than between the inner component and core.
9. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to any preceding claim 1, wherein in which the inner component is at least one of configured to and[[/or]] formed of one or more materials intended to promote tissue growth.
10. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to any preceding claim 1, wherein in which one or more materials used in the inner component are bio-absorbable.
11. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to any of claims 2 to 10 claim 1, wherein said smooth inner contact surface provides in which uniform contact between the inner surface of the inner component and the core is provided.
12. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to any of claims 2 to 11 claim 1, wherein a top wall of the inner component is connected to a side wall and hence to a bottom wall, with one or more further side walls being connected to at least one of the top wall, and/or side wall, and[[/or]] bottom wall.
13. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to claim 12, wherein in which the inner component is formed from an element including a side wall connected on one edge to a top wall and connected on an opposing edge to a bottom wall, the side wall being connected on one side edge to one other side wall and the side wall being connected on the other side edge to one or more other walls.
14. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to any preceding claim 12, wherein in which the side walls of the inner component are contacted additional elements, provided by a continuous band extending around the side of the inner component.
15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to any preceding claim 1, wherein in-which the outer component is at least one of configured and[[/or]] formed of one or more materials intended to promote tissue growth, particularly tissue ingrowth at least one of through the outer component, and/or between the inner component and the core, and[[/or]] through the inner component.
17. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to any preceding claim 1, wherein in-which one or more materials used in the outer component are bio-absorbable.
18. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to any preceding claim 1, wherein in-which the outer component is formed from an element including a side wall connected on one edge to a top wall and connected on an opposing edge to a bottom wall, the side wall being connected on one side edge to two other side walls, the side wall being connected on the other side edge to two other side walls, a further side wall being connected to the opposite edge of the top wall or bottom wall to the edge to which the side wall linking the top wall and bottom wall is provided.
19. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The disc prosthesis according to any preceding claim 18, wherein in-which one or more edges of at least one of the top wall and/or one or more edges of the bottom wall of the outer component are provided with flanges, the flanges providing anchor locations for attaching the outer component to one or more vertebrae.
20. (Currently Amended) A kit for use in providing a disc prosthesis, the kit including a series of different sized prostheses, one or more of the prostheses including a core formed of elastomeric material, the core being provided within an inner fabric component encapsulating said core and providing a smooth inner contact surface for said core, the inner component, the inner component being provided within and an outer fabric component surrounding said inner component, wherein movement between the inner and outer components is facilitated in preference to movement between the inner component and core.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A surgical technique for method of performing spine surgery, comprising:
providing a disc prosthesis, the disc prosthesis including a core formed of elastomeric material, a fabric inner component encapsulating said core and providing a smooth inner contact surface for said core, and an outer fabric component surrounding said inner component, wherein movement between the inner and outer components is facilitated in preference to movement between the inner component and core;
the technique including; removing at least part of the natural disc in a spine; and implanting said inserting a disc prosthesis in the spine, the disc prosthesis comprising a core, the core being provided within an outer component into the area formerly occupied by the removed natural disc.

23. (Canceled)

24. (New) The kit of claim 20, wherein at least one of said prostheses includes an outer component provided with flanges, the flanges providing anchor locations for attaching the outer component to one or more vertebrae.

25. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said disc prosthesis includes an outer component provided with flanges, the flanges providing anchor locations for attaching the outer component to one or more vertebrae.